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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re of Applicant)
Masayuki Toda et al) Art Group: 1763
Serial No.: 09/381,061)
Filing Date: September 10, 1999)
Accepted: December 6, 1999) Examiner: Richard R. Beuker
Title: SUBSTRATE BODY FLOATING)
APPARATUS)
)

RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 13, 2003, having a due date of June 13, 2003, Applicant hereby submits the following Amendment.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-9 are pending and rejected in this application.

Claims 1 and 3-9 are amended hereby; and claim 10 is added hereby. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to such claims.

5 Responsive to the rejection of claims 1, 3-6, and 9 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3-6, and 9, keeping in mind the comments offered by the Examiner. Applicants do, however, respectively submit that it is not necessary to amend claim 1 to recite that all pore types have a gas emitting
10 direction that forms an acute angle with the surface of the floating unit. Applicants submit that, while possibly being considered to be